この音とまれ！
8
アミュー
JUMP COMICS SQ.

★この作品はフィクションです。実在の人物・団体・事件などには、いっさい関係ありません。デジタル配信用に再編集を行っています。

この音とまれ！
8
SAKURA AMYU
JUMP COMICS SQ.

登場人物紹介

あらすじ

右手の負傷で思うように弾けない愛。さとわはそれに気付き、勃揺して本来の演奏が出来なくなり、皆の演奏もバラバラに…。しかし、コータの想いが調べを1つにする！　お互いを信じ、聴衆の心を揺さぶった時瀬の演奏の結果は!?

鳳月さとわ

時瀬高箏曲部員。箏の家元"鳳月会"の生まれて、数々のコンクールで受賞した天才少女。母と衝突し、家を出てアパートで一人暮らしをしている。

久遠愛

時瀬高箏曲部員。祖父の大事にしていた箏について深く知るために入部する。ケンカっ早く不良と誤解されているが、仲間を大事にする心の持ち主。

来栖妃呂

武蔵の同級生。中学時代に友人から裏切られ、人間不信に陥っていたが、箏曲部に入部した事で立ち直る。

滝浪涼香

時瀬高箏曲部顧問。世界的な音楽家を両親に持つが、幼少期の苦い経験から音楽とは距離を置いていた。

倉田武蔵

時瀬高箏曲部部長。一人きりの部員だったが、新入部員と共に、全国大会を目指す。生真面目な性格で、悩みを一人で抱え込んでしまう一面もある。

足立実康

時瀬高箏曲部員。中学生の時、高校生相手のケンカで愛に助けられる。その恩返しとして入部を決意。

桐生桜介

明陵高校箏曲部員。チャラチャラした性格だが、周りを引っ張って演奏していく腕前は超一級。

凰かずさ

姫坂女学院箏曲部員。箏の家元"華鳳会"の跡取りで、幼い頃からさとわの演奏に憧れを抱いていた。

高岡哲生

愛とは子供の頃からのくされ縁。数少ない愛の理解者で、彼が起こす問題をフォローする事も。

水原光太

時瀬高箏曲部員。愛とは中学からの友達。演奏が上達しない事に悩むが、みんなに追いつこうと練習に励む。

堺通孝

時瀬高箏曲部員。愛のためと言った実康を茶化していたが、彼も愛の力になりたいと考えていた。

No.

Date

Kono Oto Tomare!

Contents 8

#28 One step forward

#29 Realization

#30 Unshaken one

#31 Time for two

#28 One step forward

この音とまれ！

HERE ARE THE RESULTS.

KUDOU -KUN...
gulp...

YEAH...

STARE
I DON'T KNOW HIM!!
IS THE GUY BEHIND US YOUR FRIEND..?
shiver
NO FREA-KING WAY!!!
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
HEY...
THEN, CAN I COME PLAY AT YOUR PLACE?
I REFUSE!!
THEN, HOW ABOUT YOUR CONTACT INFORMA-TION?
What on earth

fufu
YOUR SOUND...
I REALLY DON'T WANT TO GET INVOLVED.
GEH...
SAVE ME, GLASSES!! This guy is danger-rous!
YOUR SOUND IS INTERESTING.
DEEP INSIDE
I CAN SEE A BRICKWALL.
A WELL POLI-SHED
AND VERY BEAUTIFUL SOUND.
HUH?
I KNOW YOUR SOUND.

DESPITE ITS CRUDE-NESS...

BUT YOUR SOUND IS STRANGE.

MIO~~.
NO.
COME ALONG NOW.
EVERY-BODY'S OVER THERE.
UTA -CHAN.

HEY, MIO! YOU'RE AGAIN GOING ON YOUR OWN...
MOU,

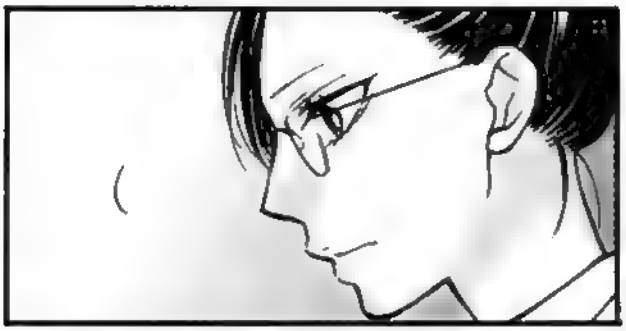
WHAT'S GOING ON?
MIO.
CRUDE WHAT ...?

UTA-CHAN, SIT HERE.

AAH, THEN AT FIRST,
FROM THE PARTICIPATING 33 SCHOOLS WE NOMINATE SEVEN
WHO WILL BE THE "EXCELLENT SCHOOLS" FOR THIS KANTO MUSIC FESTIVAL COMPETITION.
AND FINALLY FROM AMONG THOSE
THE ONE WITH THE HIGHEST POINTS WILL BE NAMED THE "WINNING SCHOOL."
FIRSTLY, FROM TOKYO PREFECTURE
AN EXCELLENT SCHOOL
MEIRYOU HIGH SCHOOL.

...
OUSUKE!
I'm relieved.
fuu
THAT'S GOOD.
WE DID IT!

YEAH.



stare
Stare
NEXT, FROM IBARAKI PREFEC-TURE
AN EXCELLENT SCHOOL.
COME, COME, COME, COME!!!

HEEE EELL YEEEE AAAA AH!!
UWAA AAAAH... SE-SE- SEN -CHAAAN
EIDAI HIGH SCHOOL.

SFX sinning

HA...
SE-SEN-CHAN...
WAHAH AHAHA
UNLIKE THOSE BRAGGING THAT THEY HAVE CUTE GIRLS IN THEIR CLUB!!
THERE YOU SEE!! THIS IS MY POWER!!
IDIOT~ IDIOT~
Ke Ke Ke
sitting down

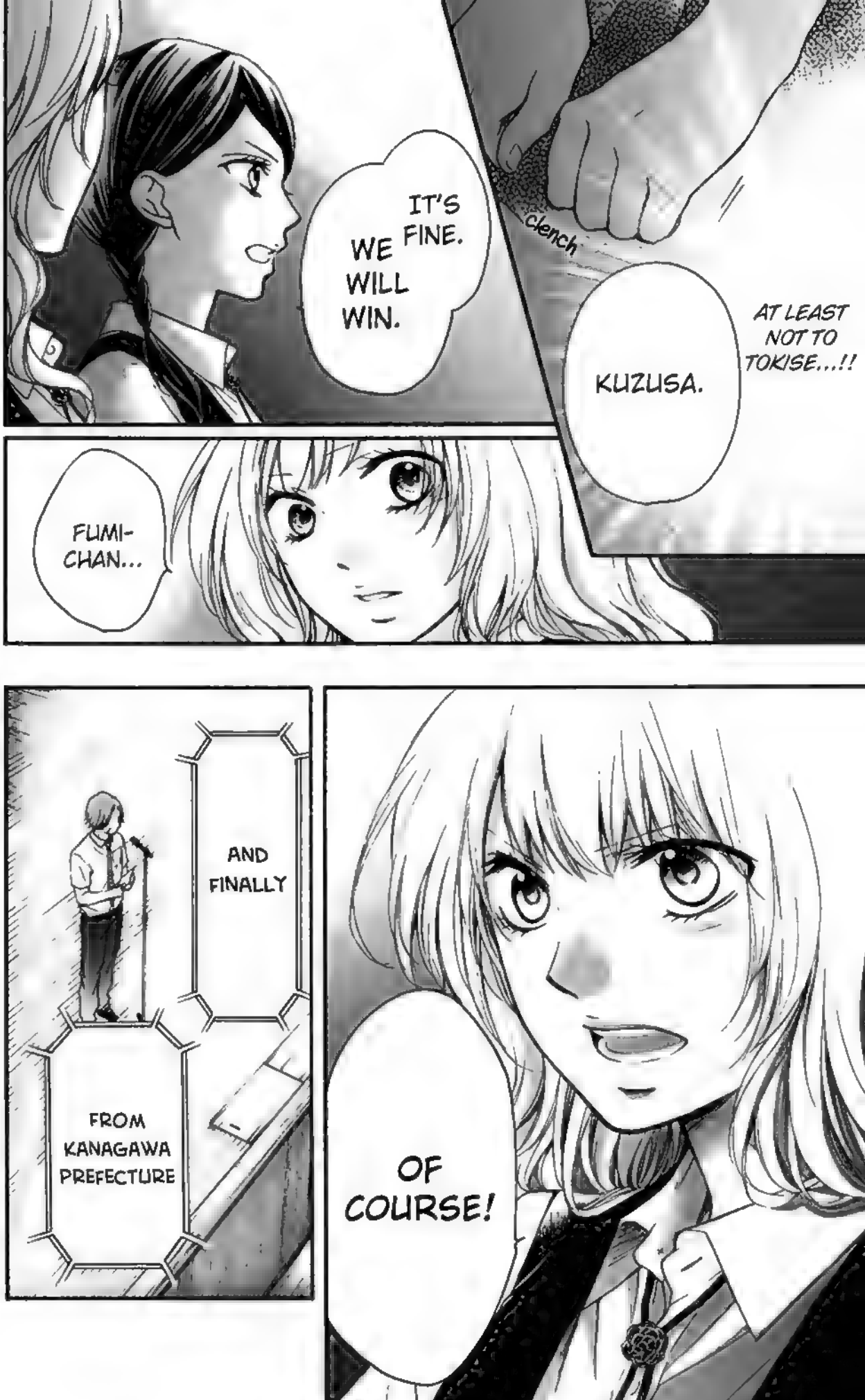
YAY
chatter
Shaaa
TOCHIGI PREFECTURE, AN EXCELLENT SCHOOL.
ICHIHARA-YAMAOKA HIGH SCHOOL.
AH...
THIS IS BAD, MY HEART-BEAT...
IT'S GOING NUTS, I DON'T THINK I CAN HANDLE THIS.
ba-dump
ba-dump
ba-dump
I CAN'T BREATHE ...
wheeze

SAITAMA PREFECTURE, AN EXCELLENT SCHOOL.
EZAWA HIGH SCHOOL.
UWA AAH
THIS IS BAD, BAD
TH S IS
MY HANDS WON'T STOP SHAKING

GUNMA PREFECTURE, AN EXCELLENT SCHOOL.
KURIYAMA FIRST HIGH SCHOOL.
AAAAH~ PLEASE LET US BE AMONG THE EXCELLENT SCHOOLS!

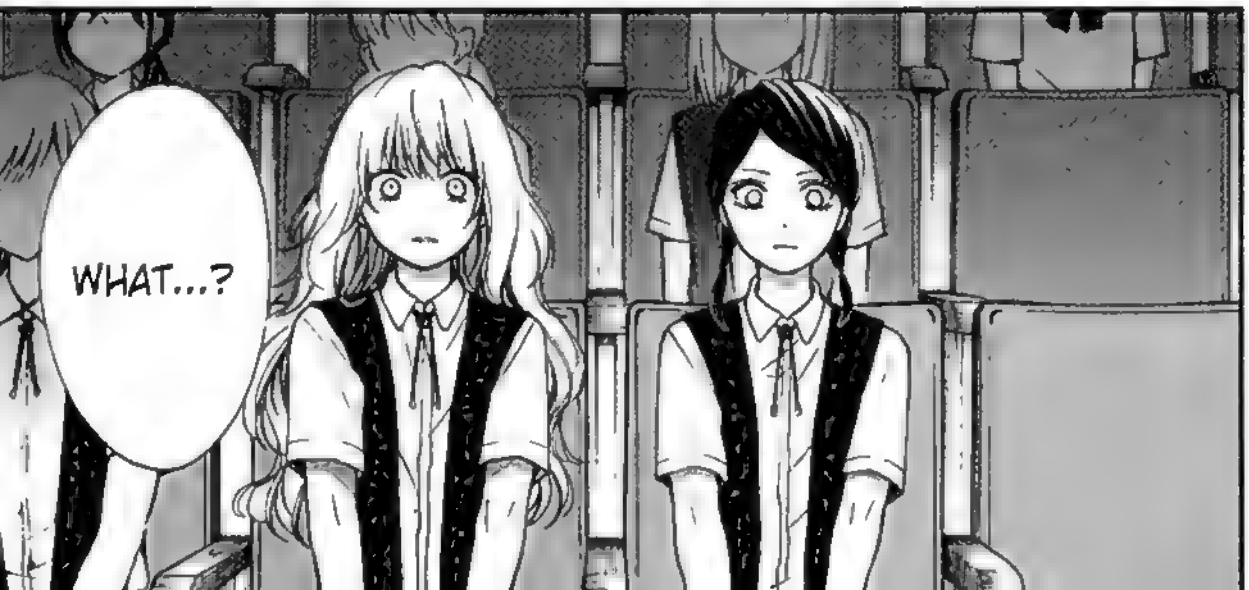
CHIBA PREFECTURE, AN EXCELLENT SCHOOL.
WE WON'T LOSE ...
I DON'T WANT TO LOSE.

IT'S REALLY EXCITING, MIO.
I GUESS.
!?
SHUDDER


IT'S FINE.
WE WILL WIN.
clench
AT LEAST NOT TO TOKISE...!!
KUZUSA.
FUMI-CHAN...
AND FINALLY
FROM KANAGAWA PREFECTURE
OF COURSE!

dudum
I'M MORE NERVOUS THAN WHEN I PLAYED ALONE...
AN EXCELLENT SCHOOL.
I DID ALL I COULD.
dudum
dudum
dudum
Please, please
I want to go home
KANAGAWA PUBLIC...

HAKUTO
HIGH
SCHOOL.


WHAT...?

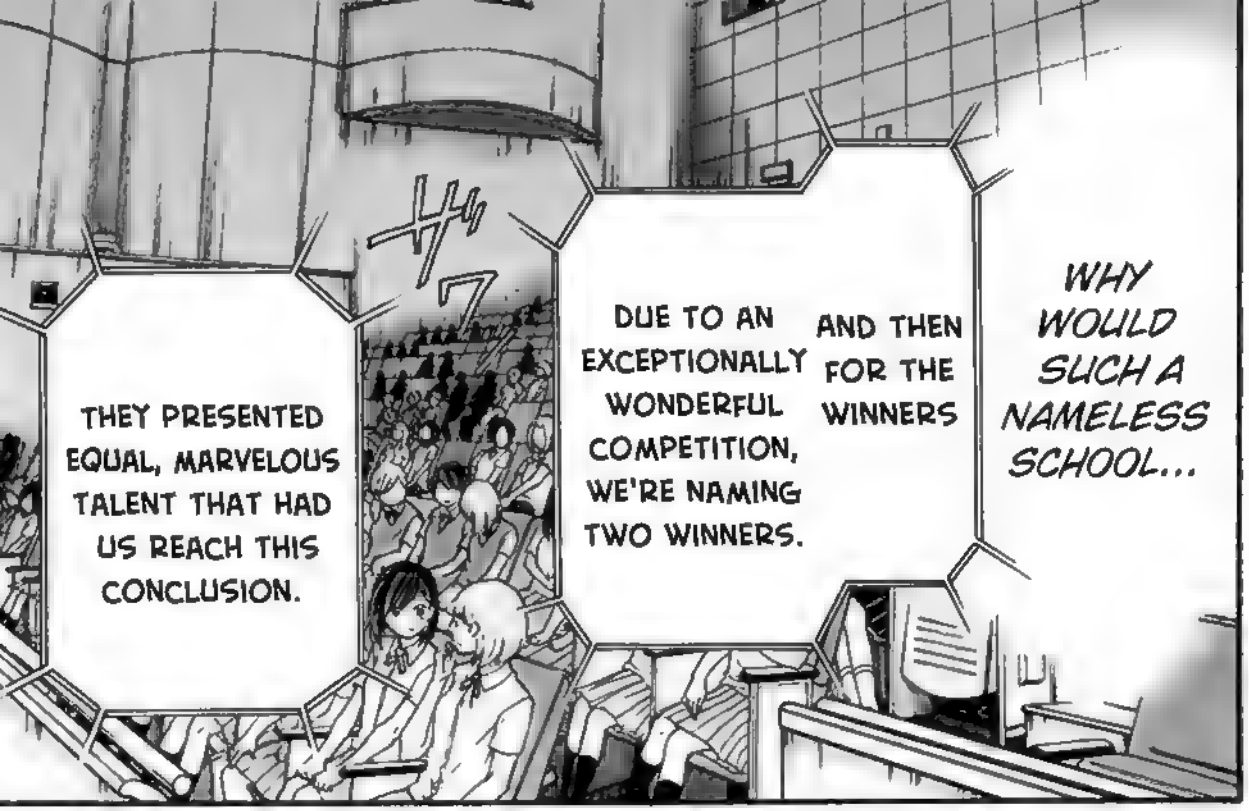
WE DID IT PRE-SIDENT!!
WAAA
HAKU... TO...?
"THE PLACE AFTER US? THEY'RE FROM KANA-GAWA..."
"HAKUTO HIGH...? I'VE NEVER HEARD OF THEM..."
STAB
THE VERY NEXT PERFOR-MANCE!!!
AFTER US...
YAY, MIO!!
WE ARE CHOSEN!!

HAKUTO'S...
NAME...
YOU FEEL LIKE TELLING IT NOW?

UNRAN-
KED...

GYAHAHAHA~ WHAAT, YOU GUYS WEREN'T EVEN LISTED...
HEY SEN -CHAN!
.....
... SORRY...

WELL.
I EXPECTED THIS RESULT.
WITH A MISS LIKE THAT,
YOU CAN'T WIN IN TOURNAMENTS.
HAKUTO HIGH...
THEY WERE RIGHT AFTER TOKISE... I GUESS
I'M SATISFIED... WITH A PERFORMANCE LIKE THAT...
WHAT...
WHAT HAPPENED
HAKUTO ...?
WHAT'S WITH THAT?


WHY WOULD SUCH A NAMELESS SCHOOL...
AND THEN FOR THE WINNERS
DUE TO AN EXCEPTIONALLY WONDERFUL COMPETITION, WE'RE NAMING TWO WINNERS.
THEY PRESENTED EQUAL, MARVELOUS TALENT THAT HAD US REACH THIS CONCLUSION.

FROM KANAGAWA PREFECTURE HAKUTO HIGH SCHOOL.

!
FROM TOKYO PREFECTURE MEIRYOU HIGH SCHOOL AND

わあああ
WAAA
AND WITH THESE TWO WINNING SCHOOLS, WE WILL NOW MOVE TO THE PRIZE CEREMONY!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT... WE WON!!?
WE DID IT!!
EQUAL TO US ..!?
FOR THE PRIZE CEREMONY WE ASK ALL THE NOMINATED SCHOOLS TO COME TO THE STAGE
THIS CAN'T BE...
IT CAN'T...

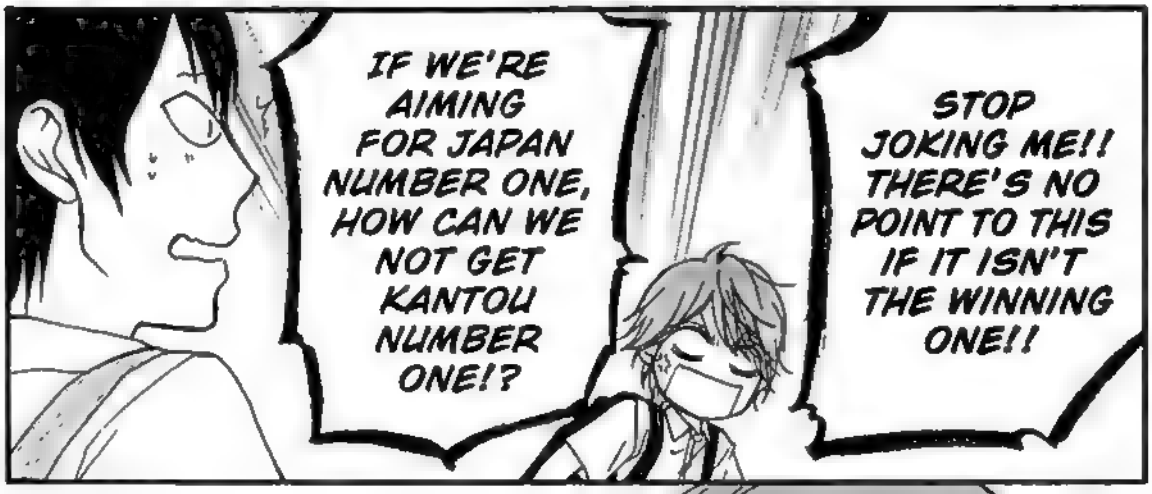
Dat
KAZUSA...
LOSING TO A FAMELESS SCHOOL CAN'T BE...
BECAUSE HIMESAKA HAS BEEN THE NUMBER ONE IN KANAGAWA FOR...

AAA
UUU
UWA AAH~
Yay!
clap clap
THIS...
WHAT IS THIS...
MY THROAT HURTS.
MY BREATH IS HEAVY
AND MY BODY FEELS SO HOT.

IT'S BURNING.
TAKAOKA -KUN, YOU GOING TO GO SAY SOME-THING TO CHIKA AND OTHERS?
AH, UUM... NO, I'M GOING HOME.
I DON'T THINK THAT'S TRUE...
THEY'D PROBABLY HATE ME SAYING ANYTHING NOW.

SEN-CHAN, YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN ANYTHING?
anger
THE WINNER'S TROPHY.
WE HAVE THE TROPHY OF EXCEL-LENCE...

Direct
NO, I'M FINE WITHOUT.
WELL, LET'S GET GOING THEN.
I'LL DROP YOU OFF.
NO NEED TO BE RE-SERVED!
NO, REALLY, I'M FINE.
HEY !!


IF WE'RE AIMING FOR JAPAN NUMBER ONE, HOW CAN WE NOT GET KANTOU NUMBER ONE!?
STOP JOKING ME!! THERE'S NO POINT TO THIS IF IT ISN'T THE WINNING ONE!!

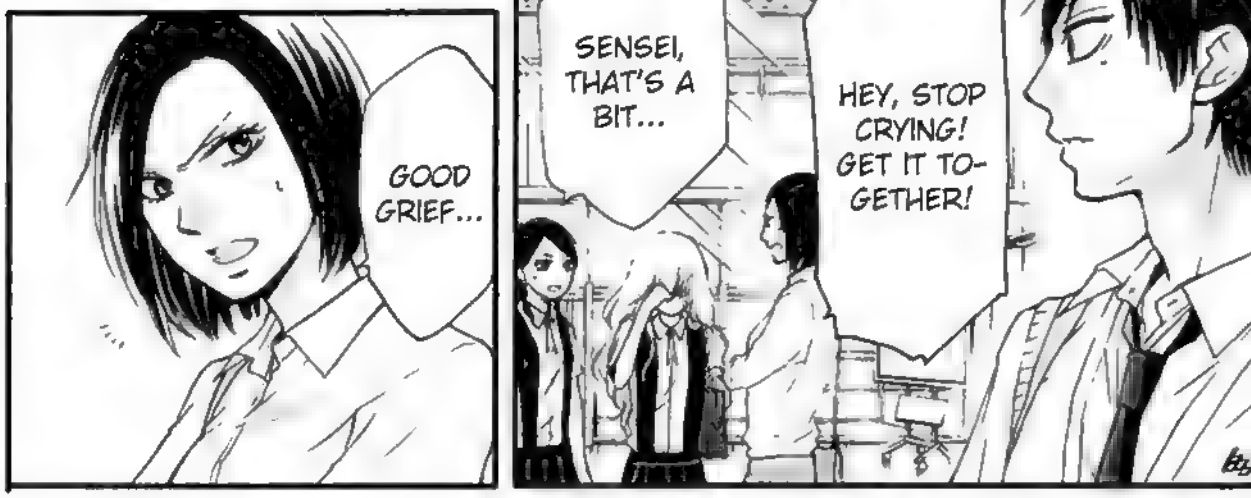
AH
UM...
WE'RE GOING, HARU!!
WHAT!?
I'M NOT LOSING TO ANYBODY ANYMORE.
DAMN...
WE'LL DEFINITELY BE AT THE TOP.

THOSE GUYS...
THE FOLKS FROM TOKISE?
I WANTED TO... BECOME FRIENDS WITH THEM...
WHAAAT?
Friends with them!?
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE MET SOMEBODY ELSE WHO PLAYS A MAN'S KOTO AND THEY SEEMED LIKE NICE PEOPLE...
NO, I MEAN...
WHAT PART WAS NICE!?
DAMN IT.

AT ANY RATE, THOSE GUYS...
WE'LL MEET THEM AGAIN
IF THEY KEEP PLAYING KOTO.

OU-SUKE
YOCCHAN SAID HE'D TAKE US HOME BY CAR.
YOU'RE COMING, RIGHT?
FOR REAL? LUCKY?

SEN -CHAN...
MOREOVER, LET'S GET HOME AND PRACTICE!
WE DON'T HAVE THE LUXURY TO REST!
A-
ALRIGHT.


GOOD GRIEF...
SENSEI, THAT'S A BIT...
HEY, STOP CRYING! GET IT TO-GETHER!

GOOD WORK TODAY.
smile
crackle

NEXT TIME WE'RE TAKING YOU DOWN!!
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.

SENPAI'S MOUTH IS AS FILTHY AS ALWAYS.
IT SICKENS ME.
BAH! THAT SMILE IS AS PHONY AS ALWAYS
smiling

FRIENDS BACK FROM UNIVERCITY, RIGHT?
YEAH, AND APPARENTLY THEY'VE BEEN AT EACH OTHER'S THROATS EVER SINCE DUE TO CONFLICTING MUSIC IDEAS.
crackle
crackle
OKAY, KAZUSA? HAVE YOU CALMED DOWN A BIT?
wiping
I'M FINE...

WE WILL GET ONLY STRONGER AFTER THIS!

This way
Where are you going

THINGS SEEM TO BE GETTING MORE INTERESTING.
CHUCKLE
HEY...

HOW NAIVE...
I MEAN WE...
WE REALLY PUT OUR BEST INTO IT.
R-
RIGHT...
HA HA...
I GUESS IT ISN'T THAT SIMPLE TO GET TO THE PODIUMS!
I EVEN SPOKE OF THE NATIONALS AT THIS LEVEL.
I NEED TO TRAIN MORE...
MORE... MORE AND MORE...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
I'M KINDA EMBAR-RASED...

THERE IS NOTHING TO BE EMBARRASED ABOUT!!

SURE, MAYBE TODAY'S RESULTS WEREN'T EXACTLY AS PLANNED
BUT WE GAVE OUR BEST ON THAT STAGE.
THERE IS NO NEED TO GO AS FAR AS TO DENY OURSELVES!

TAKEZO -SENPAI...
AAH, I CAN'T...
MY WORDS ALONE CAN'T
HOW LONG ARE YOU PEOPLE PLANNING TO MOPE AROUND?
THE WORDS OF SOMEBODY THAT PLAYED ALONGSIDE THEM AREN'T ENOUGH...
I'M NOT LYING OR ANYTHING
BUT IT ISN'T ENOUGH...

SENSEI...
YOU CAN'T CHANGE THE PAST.
YOU MADE A MISS IN A CONTEST SO YOU CAN'T EXPECT MORE.
WHY ARE YOU SAYING SOMETHING LIKE-
I
HON-ESTLY
NEVER EXPECTED MIZUHARA TO BE THE ONE WHO BROUGHT IT BACK.
KUDOU EVEN MANAGED TO PLAY WITH THAT HAND.
I COULDN'T BELIEVE YOU COULD MAKE SUCH A COME-BACK.

YOU DIDN'T DO YOUR BEST TODAY, DID YA?
YOU WENT FAR BEYOND THAT.
WHA...

"YOU LIKE MUSIC, DON'T YOU?"
"THAT'S WHY I'M STAYING AWAY FROM IT"
"I LOVE IT"
chuckle

IT WAS A FINE SHOW.

YOUR PERFOR-MANCE WAS GOOD.

"SORRY, I CAN ONLY SAY AS I THINK."

YOU GUYS CAN GET MUCH BETTER.

I'LL MAKE A MUCH BETTER PERFORMANCE NEXT TIME!
I'LL TRAIN MORE AND MORE AND MORE AND BECOME AMAZING!!
NEXT TIME I'M NOT LOSING.
IT'S SO FRUS-TRATING!
AAAAH, DAMNIT!
WE'RE DEFINITELY GOING
THE NEXT ARE NATIONAL PRELIMINA-RIES..?
YEAH.

TO THE NATIONALS.
wiping
wiping

ABSOLUTELY.
Yeaah! We're doing this! Uraaah!
DO YOUR BEST. SURE, SURE
BUT GO HOME FOR NOW.
blowing nose
HAHA
HE HE...
sniff

YOU'RE NOT...
GOING TO SAY HOW IMPOSSIBLE OUR DREAMS ARE..?
I'M NOT GOING TO SAY THINGS I DON'T THINK.

Yaki-niku!!!
Treat us some reward!!
Senseei!

Haha.

As if.

#29 Realisation

yawn

door opening

EVEN THOUGH HE SAID THERE'S NO CLUB TODAY...

#29 Realisation

CAN GET MUCH BETTER.

YOU GUYS

OH.

clack

HEY, THE DOOR'S OPEN...

WHY ARE YOU HERE?

I TOLD YOU TODAY'S MEETING IS OFF.

SAME TO YOU, KUDOU -KUN.

AH.

Ehehe~ Everyone's here.

in droves

WELL, THAT MAYBE, BUT MIDWAY THROUGH THE DAY I SORT OF WANTED TO PLAY SOME KOTO.

!

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, THIS IS A BIT SAD...

WITHOUT KOTO CLUB I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.

PRACTISE WHAT?

NOW THAT WE'RE HERE, SHOULD WE PRACTISE?

WHAT'D YOU KNOW, IT'S JUST LIKE BEFORE.

EVERY-ONE...

GEH.

OR MAYBE A NEW ONE...

ARE WE STICKING WITH KU-ON?

WHAT'S OUR SONG GOING TO BE?

NEXT IS THE NATIONAL PRELIMINARY, RIGHT?

WHY...?

NEVER MIND THAT.

HERE, TAKE IT.

sigh...

SENSEI!?

YOU ALL CAME HERE.

DON'T YOU GUYS HAVE BETTER THINGS TO DO?

PLAY IT THERE.

YOUR NEXT STAGE IS AT THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL IN SEPTEMBER.

?

A SCORE? With full staff notations...

flip

I ARRANGED SOME RANDOM POPULAR SONGS TOGETHER.

EH...?

I'M TELLING YOU, PERFORM AT THE FESTIVAL!

GET SOME EXPERIENCE PLAYING FOR A CROWD.

YOU SHOULD CLIMB THE STAIRS BEFORE YOU FIRST.

I'M YOUR ADVISOR.

SENSEI IS... SAYING ADVISOR LIKE THINGS...

SAY SOME-THING...

silence...

EVEN THE STRING COUNTS ARE CAREFULLY LISTED...

AH, ANYWAY.

BUT HOW DID YOU FIND A SONG LIKE THIS?
An arrangement of popular songs?

I MADE IT.
yesterday

.....

Touched

SUZUKA -CHAN...

Made it?! Who? Sensei?

WHO ELSE IS THERE?

No, I mean... A song! Even with string counts...

You said you had no experience with the Koto...!

Made it?!

Whaat?!

I CAN AT LEAST READ THE SHEETS.

I'VE BEEN THE ADVISOR OF THIS CLUB FOR TWO YEARS.

I WONDER IF WE CAN ALREADY WRITE MUSIC?

IF YOU CAN DO THAT WITHOUT PLAYING,

HMM... IS THAT SO...

ama-zing...

!!??

What is this person saying?!

THAT SCORE HAS THREE PARTS, WITH ONE OF THEM BEING A 17-STRINGER.

LISTEN.

NEVER MIND ME.

SENSEI, WHAT ARE YOU...

As if you could!!

That's right, idiots!!

YOUR SENSE OF RHYTHM IS GOOD AND YOU PLAY STRONGLY; IT'S PROBABLY UP YOUR ALLEY.

...

I MADE THAT PART A BIT EASIER, SO INSTEAD OF HOUTSUKI PLAYING IT, ADACHI, YOU DO IT.

Geh, me?!

Not fair, Sane! I'm also doing it!

THERE'S ABOUT A MONTH UNTIL THE FESTIVAL. THERE'S PLENTY OF TIME.

YOU FOCUS ON HEALING YOUR HAND.

SO,

GET PRACTIS-ING.

I HAVE WORK TO DO SO I'LL BE IN THE FACULTY OFFICE.

MEANWHILE, FIND A SONG FOR THE NATIONAL PRELIMINARIES.

I'LL BE LOOKING FOR ONE, BUT AS HOUTSUKI IS MORE EXPE-RIENCED WITH THIS,

IF ANY-THING COMES UP, I'LL ASK YOU FIRST.

Slam...

School festival score

BUT...

Huh...

?

?

I-

I DON'T KNOW...

UM... WHAT..? I DON'T GET IT! WHAT HAPPENED TO SUZUKA -CHAN?

WAIT,

?

OH,

AND DON'T FORGET YOUR SUMMER HOMEWORK,

door opening

OR YOU'LL BE REPRI-MANDED BY THE VICE-PRINCIPAL AGAIN.

shiver

DID WE HAVE ANY-THING LIKE THAT?

? ? ?

WHAT'S HOME-WORK?

Slam

Son?!

Takinami Kaoru and Yukimori Tukasa's

TAKAOKA

AT LEAST, tap tap

FAMOUS ENOUGH FOR ME TO KNOW THEM.

WITH PARENTS LIKE THAT AROUND, NO WONDER HIS EARS ARE REFINED.

SOME-THING LIKE THAT.

THEY'RE FAMOUS?

Eh, You don't know?

They're a world-renowned conductor and a genius pianist!

YOU KNOW THEM, TAKEZO -SENPAI?

THAT MAKES ME EVEN HAPPIER.

SAID OUR PERFORMANCE WAS GOOD.

A PERSON WHO IS USED TO SUPER FIRST CLASS MUSIC

WE CAN BECOME MUCH BETTER...

ISN'T THAT NICE.

YOU'RE NOT COPY-ING.

TETSUKI! LEND ME YOURS.

Let's blaze through this home-work!

Uwooh! I'm fired up!

Uwaah. There are so many

Haha, no luck

But I can't write with my right hand

You're left handed

And hug-ging my clothes!

Now need to wash those

Why are you sleep-ing?

Snore

Kick

excited

Playing cardboard koto by himself

SQUEEZE

THIS DAMN BRAT.

OK. I GIVE UP!

Scary. How old are you?

Should I feed you? Say «aaahn.»

shi

ne

Per-fect!!

NEW SCHOOL TERM

"Thump"

WAHAHA, THEY UNDER-ESTIMATED MY HEALING ABILITIES.

Waha haha

DON'T YOU NEED TWO MORE WEEKS?

ARE YOU SE-RIOUS?

Yo, long time no see.

OH, HOUTSUKI, I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU WITH HAIR DOWN IN A WHILE

HUH? IS THAT BAD?

YOU'LL HURT IT IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL.

SPRAINS TEND TO FOLLOW ONE AFTER ANOTHER.

IS THAT SO?

WHY ARE YOU GETTING ANGRY?

I'M NOT. I'M FINE.

NO, I DON'T REALLY CARE.

2-A

UMMM... THE RESULT OF THE VOTE IS...

WE'LL SPLIT THE TASKS NEXT.

WE'VE DECIDED ON A CAFE FOR THE FESTIVAL.

WE, CLASS 2A, WILL BE DOING A WAFFLE CAFE!

chatter
chatter

AHAHA...

RIGHT, KURATA AND KURUSU ARE IN THE SAME CLUB.

YEAH.

WHY ARE YOU APOLO-GIZING?

I'M SORRY?

HOW DID WE END UP AS SHOPPERS TOGETHER...?

HEY, MIYU!

HIRO, YOU'VE BECOME SO BORING LATELY.

WHAT?

FESTIVAL PREPARATIONS WERE THE PER-FECT CHANCE TO GET CLOSE TO AZUMA-KUN AND OTHERS.

Azuma-kun and others

~The popular crowd~

AH, DAMN, THIS IS THE WORST.

WHY OF ALL PEOPLE I AM WITH THESE LAME-OS?

aah

I STILL REMEMBER YOU CALLING KURATA "NADESHIKO-CHAN" AND MAKING FUN OF HIM.

SHOCK

silence..

SORRY...

BESIDES,

NO, IT'S JUST YOU'VE ALREADY SAID MUCH WORSE TO MY FACE.

Wha-

What are you laughing about?!

I DON'T REALLY MIND.

chuckle

I UNDER-STAND THE KURURU -SAN NOW QUITE WELL

SO IT'S OKAY.

HEY,

WAIT.

WANT TO CRY.

AH.

I KIND OF

THIS IS BAD.

SATOU-SAN SHOULD

DON'T TELL ME YOU L-

WHAT'S WITH THAT RESPONSE?

I don't want to hear that from such an aloof guy like you!

WHAAT?!

THERE ARE THINGS YOU SHOULD AND SHOULDN'T SAY.

YOU REALLY PISS ME OFF!

LEARN TO READ THE MOOD A BIT BETTER.

"I UNDESTAND THE KURURU-SAN NOW QUITE WELL.

SO IT'S OKAY."

IT'S OKAY.

HMM... SO CHIKA'S CLASS IS DOING THAT.

LIKE MACHA WITH GREEN TEA AND STUFF?

AND STRAW-BERRY DAIFUKU!

Dooom

STRAW-BERRY DAIFUKU?

A JAPANESE CAFE?

THE CLASSIC! A HAUNTED HOUSE!

Kyaaa

SANE, WHAT ARE YOU GUYS GOING TO DO?

Kudou wants strawberry daifuku? So, a Japanese cafe?

The class was in an uproar over that.

CHIKA OVERRULED THE MENU...

Y-YEAH.

AREN'T YOU ALSO PERFORMING?

HONESTLY, I NEVER THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE A DAY YOU GUYS ATTENDED THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL NORMALLY.

YEAH!

BUT JUST WAIT UNTIL WE SEND THEM CRYING AND SCREAMING HOME!

SOME PEOPLE MIGHT THINK IT'S LAME,

BEFORE, HE...

TAKINAMI-SENSEI'S PARENTS MAY BE AMAZING, BUT HE'S PRETTY AMAZING TOO.

YEAH, RIGHT?

I THOUGHT MODERN SONGS WERE BORING,

BUT THIS ARRANGEMENT IS AMAZING.

THIS IS...?

What??

START BY GOING THROUGH ALL OF THEM.

JUST SOME MUSIC I THINK YOU'VE NEVER HEARD BEFORE.

Thump

YOU GUYS DON'T HAVE NEARLY ENOUGH EXPERIENCE WITH MUSIC.

DON'T BE STUPID, THIS IS JUST A PORTION OF WHAT I PICKED.

Umm That seems like a lot

shake

shake

HONE YOUR MUSICAL SENSE.

ABSORB IT.

LISTEN, AND LEARN THEIR DIFFERENT WAYS OF EXPRESSION.

THERE ARE MOUNTAINS OF OUTSTANDING ARTISTS OUT THERE.

YOU'LL LEARN TO LOVE PLAYING EVEN MORE.

AFTER ALL THAT,

smile

Slam

AFTER YOU'VE MET YOUR QUOTA.

AH, SENSEI!

ANY GUIDANCE FOR THE PERFOR-MANCE...

IN SHORT, JUST LISTEN TO THESE.

I DON'T GET WHY. LISTENING TO MUSIC IS SURELY MORE USEFUL THAN CLASS.

THEY GOT MAD WHEN THEY FOUND OUT I HAD EARPLUGS IN DURING CLASS...

EVER SINCE,

WE'VE BEEN LISTENING TO MUSIC DAY AND NIGHT.

I'LL REMEM-BER TO COME EAT AT YOUR PLACE.

DON'T GET LONELY, TECCHAN.

IN THE END, YOU'LL BE BUSY ONCE AGAIN.

wa ha ha

PLEASE DON'T.

KICK

Huh? You want to go?

Huuh?

wahana

Fight, fight, fight—

Jwaah

wow

Kya ha

ñaa

IT WAS ALWAYS AWKWARD TALKING WITH KUDOU -KUN.

I THOUGHT HE WAS A SCARY PERSON, BUT THEN- STRAW-BERRIES!

CUTE?!

DON'T YOU THINK IT'S KIND OF CUTE?

RIGHT?! HE WAS SO HAPPY WHEN IT WAS DECIDED!

kyaa

kyaa

I WAS HONESTLY SO SUR-PRISED.

OH, ABOUT KUDOU -KUN?

STRAW-BERRY DAIFUKU!

WH-

LIKE WHAT...

... NORMAL..? I THINK...

SATOWA -CHAN,

WHAT'S KUDOU-KUN LIKE IN YOUR CLUB?

EH?

WH- WHAT IS THIS TOPIC?!

IS THIS WHAT GIRLS USUALLY DISCUSS?

I-I don't like anyone!!

HMM ..

Gah!

THE KOTO CLUB HAS A LOT OF BOYS, SATOWA -CHAN, DON'T YOU HAVE SOMEBODY YOU LIKE?

DOESN'T IT?

Ehhh?!

Depressed

Music idiot

Club idiot

I- I CAN'T...

FOLLOW AT ALL...

OH, HAVE I TOLD YOU TELL YET? I GOT A BOYFRIEND DURING THE SUMMER!

EH, REALLY? I WANT ONE TOO.

INTRO-DUCE SOME-ONE TO ME.

Let's have mixer, then!

Yay!

I KNOW, RIGHT?

WHEN SUMMER COMES, COUPLES JUST POP UP!

I GUESS IT'S THE ROSE-COLOURED SCHOOL LIFE.

SO THAT'S HOW IT IS...

A ha ha ha ha!

HI-

HIRO -SENPAI...

You're perfectly fine the way you are, Houtsuki -san!

You are so cute!

Hug

Hug

HIRO -SENPAI...

AM I.... MAYBE...

I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THEIR TALK AT ALL...

TWISTED...?

EH?

fidget

DO YOU ALSO... HAVE SOMEBODY...

THAT... UM...YOU L-LIKE...

fidget

THAT PAUSE JUST NOW...

Hello!!

Slam

NOPE.

.....

I'M PLAYING THE 17-STRINGED KOTO THIS TIME.

I ALREADY FEEL THE PRESSURE.

I WANTED TO COME EARLY AND PRACTICE.

OH, MITSU AND KOUTA HAD CLEANING TO DO SO I LEFT THEM BEHIND.

OH, SANE! YOU'RE ALONE TODAY?

BUT...

BEING ENTRUSTED WITH THIS MAKES ME REALLY HAPPY,

LIKE I AM ACCEPTED OR SOME-THING...

THIS SUITS ME MUCH BETTER.

Osu!!

Hmm

HIS ENTHU-SIASM IS RE-LAXING.

COULD YOU PLEASE TEACH ME ABOUT THE 17-STRINGED KOTO TODAY?

SO ONCE AGAIN, HOUTSUKI -SAN!

I WON'T GO EASY ON YOU.

BOW

I NEED TO FOLLOW SANE'S EXAMPLE AND PRAC-TICE!

WE'RE DEFINITELY GOING TO THE NATIO-NALS!

FOCUS! FOCUS!

chatter

chatter

"HIRO-SENPAI, DO YOU ALSO HAVE SOMEBODY YOU LIKE?"

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO, I WILL BE FINE ALONE.

I never said anything like that!

THANKS...

THIS IS ALL YOU NEED?

Got it.

SHALL WE GO?

THE OTHERS AREN'T HERE.

And there isn't that much we need

Just the two of us?

SHOPPING GROUP!

ARE YOU FREE NOW?

NOW THAT I THINK OF IT, WASN'T THERE A TIME WHEN WE WERE IN HIS ROOM ALONE?

I DON'T GET IT.

WHAT AM I AGITATED ABOUT?

SOME-THING LIKE SHOPPING IS EASY! EASY!

RLSTLE

Dudum

EH...

THIS VOICE...

dudum

HIRO?

"YOU'RE THE WORST."

"I CAN'T BELIEVE IT."

"I NEVER THOUGHT YOU WERE THE TYPE OF PERSON WHO'D DO THINGS LIKE THIS."

"HIRO, I'VE HEARD YOU'VE BEEN HARASSING AIHARA JUST TO MAKE HER STAY AWAY FROM YOUR BOY-FRIEND?"

WHAT A COINCIDENCE! LONG TIME NO SEE♡

AH, IT REALLY IS HIRO!

THEY'RE YOUR FRIENDS, KURUSU -SAN?

MI... NAMI...

NAOYA...

I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE MIDDLE SCHOOL.

"MY FRIEND TOLD ME THAT YOU'RE ALWAYS COMPLAIN-ING ABOUT ME?

IF YOU HATE ME THAT MUCH, WE SHOULD JUST BREAK UP."

IS HE YOUR CURRENT BOY-FRIEND?

I NEVER DID ANY-THING TO YOU TWO...

I'VE TOLD YOU THAT SO MANY TIMES.

STILL DOING THE USUAL STUFF?

WE DON'T HEAR ANY GOOD RUMORS ABOUT YOU

Shake

NO

TH-THAT'S NOT...

DO I HAVE TO...

WHY

Sigh.

AND YET YOU STILL HAVEN'T SAID A SINGLE WORD OF APOLOGY

squeeze

LET'S GO.

EXCUSE US WE'RE IN A BIT OF A RUSH.

flinch

IF YOU TRUST HER, EVENTUALLY YOU...

.... YOU SHOULD WATCH OUT.

BUT I AM A BETTER JUDGE OF PEOPLE THAN YOU.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONCERN

-TA.

KURATA!

AH,

UMM..
THAT...

SORRY,
SORRY.

HM?

OH.

HAND

HAND!!

COME
ON.

WELL
THEN,

LET'S
CONTINUE
SHOPPING.

BA-DUM

BA-DUM

BA-DUM

BA-DUM

THIS IS BAD...

I'M TELLING YOU DON'T-

DON'T CRY, MY HEART.

.....

HOUTSUKI, WHAT'RE YOU MAKING?

DON'T CRY.

大福 二百

...STRA... STRAWBERRY DAIFUKU...

AND THIS?

じ茶 百五十円

A PIC-TURE OF A TEACUP.

WHAT IS THIS?

W-WHAT... YOU SHOULD GET IT BY LOOKING

IT'S THE MENU POSTER FOR OUR CAFE.

ha ha ha ha ha

Ba ha

A ha ha ha

YOU'RE AMAZING.

A REAL MASTER PAINTER.

swoosh

HUH?

KUDOU -KUN IS LAUGHING...

steaming

flinch

AH, UM...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING...?

NO- NOTHING.

I PICKED IT UP FROM THE SCRAP BOX.

YOU DON'T THINK THIS POSTER IS A BIT WARPED?

NO, REALLY, WHAT WAS I DOING!?

!

I'LL FIX IT.

PASS ME THE TOOLS.

WATCH OUT!

THERE'S A NAIL!

jump

W-
WOAH.

SO-SO-
SORRY!!

I WASN'T DOING ANY-THING!! IT WAS THAT, YOU KNOW! YOU KNOW THAT!

AN ACCI-DENT!! I DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING BAD...

NO...
I JUST JUMPED SO SUDDENLY SO IT'S...

drip

drip

FINE.

HUH?

WHAT?

WHAT IS THIS...?

stunned...

I MADE HER CRY...?

turn

HEY, HOUT-SUKI...

E-

EXCUSE ME.

WHAT...

patter patter

Watched the whole thing

WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO...

IT'S SO HOT

IT'S SO HOT.

Let's draw more Blood on it!

kya kya

Wa hahaa, look at my Ghost Mask!

Frozen

HEY, CHIKA...

ARE YOU OKAY?

grab

THEY HAD STRAWBERRY CAKES FOR SALE, YOU WA-

YOU'RE JUST GOING TO EAT IT...

chew

chew

#30 Unshaken

BUT I AM A BETTER JUDGE OF PEOPLE THAN YOU.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONCERN.

EXCUSE US

WE'RE IN A BIT OF A RUSH.

...

clatter

silence...

W-WHAT IS THIS WEIRD MOOD?

.....

ABOUT OUR STAGE PRACTICE BEFORE THE FES-TIVAL...

Y-YES...?

ba-dump

KURUSU-SAN...

bonk

scuttle

Kurusu-san?!

... ARE YOU FEELING OKAY?

wobble

wobble

O-

OKAY...

PR-
PRAC-
TISE!

LET'S GO
PRACTICE.

?

AAHAHAHA
I'M FINE,
PERFECTLY
FINE.

your
head!!

Hey

Are you
okay?!

THIS IS
BAD...

drip

IT'S
EVEN
MORE
AWKWARD
THAN I
EXPEC-
TED.

drip

DESPITE IT BEING
AN ACCIDENT, FOR
HER TO DISLIKE
IT THAT MUCH...

.....

silence...

WHY...

Shocked...

HOU-

turn

MAYBE IF I APOLOGIZE...?

I JUST MADE IT MORE AWKWARD!!

IF I HAD SAID SOMETHING NORMAL, THIS WOULD ALL BE OVER!

WHY AM I TURNING AWAY LIKE THIS?!!

W-WHAT ON EARTH HAPPENED?

squeak

squeak

POOF

We'll eat you! RAWR–!

TA

Uwoooh~ Have you been bad children~?

DA

WE MADE THESE FOR OUR HAUNTED HOUSE!

THEY'RE NOT VERY GHOSTY, BUT WHO CARES!

Kya Kya

DID WE GET YOU? WERE YOU SCARED?

SURPRISE! IT WAS US! WAHAHAA

JUST LOOK AT CHIKA AND HOUTSUKI. THEY'RE SO SCARED THEIR SOULS ARE LEAVING.

WE'RE SO GOOD!

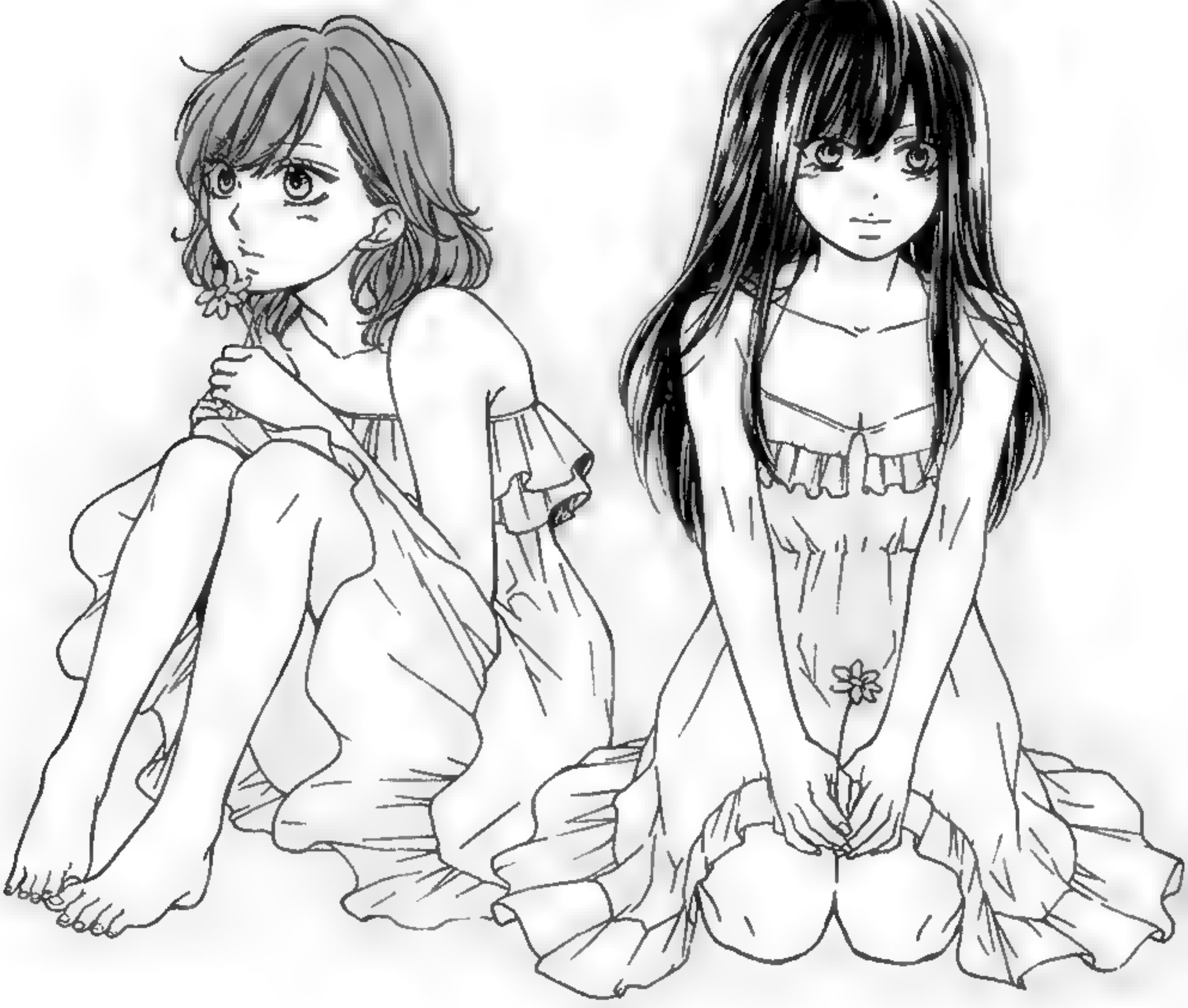
HUH?

GOOD WORK AS ALWAYS!

WOOOW, AMAZING!!

A real ghost

#30 Unshaken



AH.

CRAP, ANOTHER MISTAKE.

I'M REALLY MESSING UP TODAY...

WE'RE TOTALLY OUT OF SYNC...

EH?

AH, STOP.

WE'RE DONE FOR THE DAY. GO HOME!

SLAM

WAIT

SENSE-

IT'S FINE IF YOU TRAIN SOLO, BUT NOT IN AN ENSEMBLE.

WHA—

BAD PRACTISE LIKE THIS WILL ONLY HURT YOUR MOTIVATION.

I'M SORRY!!

... IS IT BECAUSE I CAN'T CONCEN-TRATE?

.....

I THOUGHT I DID WELL.

WERE WE THAT BAD?

??

MAYBE THAT'S WHY EVERYONE HAS A HARD TIME FOLLOWING.

I DON'T HAVE THE POWER TO PULL EVERYONE LIKE HOUTSUKI -SAN...

MY 17-STRING PLAYING IS PROBABLY AT FAULT.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? YOU ONLY JUST STARTED WITH THE 17-STRING.

THIS IS ALREADY AMAZING.

PLEASE DON'T FLATTER ME, TAKEZO -SENPAI.

YOU SHOULDN'T GO EASY ON ME.

EVEN THOUGH WE'RE SO CLOSE TO THE EVENT

I'LL PRACTISE EVEN HARDER!

HOW CAN I BE SO FRIVOLOUS WHEN EVERYONE ELSE IS DOING THEIR BEST?

SANE IS SO MANLY!!

AREN'T I?

I'M BRINGING EVERYONE DOWN

EVEN SUZUKA-CHAN IS MOTIVATED AND DOING SO MUCH FOR US.

I REALLY CAN'T READ THE MOOD.

SUZUKA-CHAN MAY HAVE FORBIDDEN IT, BUT THERE ISN'T THAT LONG UNTIL THE FESTIVAL!

I'M SORRY I COULDN'T CONCENTRATE.

HIRO -SENPAI ...

ALL TOGETHER!!

LET'S PRACTISE!

THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO THINK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED.

THAT'S RIGHT. LET'S DO IT.

I NEED TO FACE FORWARD.

Once more from the beginning.

Yeah, let's do this!

AAAH! IN THE END WE WENT ALL OUT.

THE EN-SEMBLE REALLY IS FUN.

Get carried away so easily!

EH, WH-

WHAT?

KURUSU -SAN ARE YOU FINE NOW?

I MEAN, YOU WERE ACTING A BIT STRANGE THIS MORNING.

FOR THE SAKE OF THIS HAPPY ATMOSPHERE

I NEED TO ERASE THIS EMOTION.

IS THAT SO?

AS LONG AS YOU'RE OKAY.

OH, THAT!

I THINK I WAS JUST A BIT TENSE WITH THE FESTIVAL BEING SO CLOSE.

I MIGHT HAVE ACTED A BIT WEIRDLY, SORRY!

A ha ha

SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WORRY.

EH?

... I'M SORRY

I'M SORRY FOR REACTING SO BADLY JUST BECAUSE OF SOME ACCIDENT.

I WAS JUST REALLY SURPRISED,

AND IN THE END, I WAS THE ONE WHO OVER-REACTED.

YOU'RE THE VICTIM HERE.

SEE YOU TOMORROW.

O-OKAY...

HOU-

NOW WE'RE DONE WITH THIS TOPIC.

?

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL, I GUESS.

YEAH

BUT SOMEHOW I'M NOT SATISFIED.

AH.

HMMM...

close

MORNING.

Y-

YO.

... ARE WE BACK TO NORMAL?

OH, HOUTSUKI, ABOUT-

I'M IN A HURRY SO I'LL BE GOING.

HUH...

.....

WHY

WHAT?

HOUTSUKI, CAN WE TALK?

.....

... NEVER-MIND.

WON'T YOU LOOK AT ME?

EVEN IF SHE WANTED TO ACT NORMAL, THINGS JUST AREN'T THAT SIMPLE.

TO HOUTSUKI -SAN, IT WAS SOMETHING THAT HAD HER CRYING.

IT CAN'T BE HELPED, CAN IT?

.....

WELL, TRY GIVING HER SOME SPACE.

THEY SAY THAT TIME HEALS ALL WOUNDS.

gloom

DID I... REALLY HURT HER THAT MUCH?

Damn, if only I had reacted faster!

I DON'T THINK THAT'S IT...

TIME...

YEAH! I WANT TO HEAR!!

SHOULD WE LISTEN TO THEM?

YES, I BROUGHT SOME SONGS WITH ME.

CD

HOUTSUKI-SAN, DO YOU HAVE ANY SONG SUGGESTIONS FOR THE NATIONAL PRELIMINARIES?

Ahaha

SHOULD I COME REGARD-LESS THEN?

OH, I'M FINE. I'M STRONG!

Uhuhu

I'LL GO GET A CD PLAYER FROM THE FACULTY OFFICE.

I'LL HELP. IT'S A BIT HEAVY.

I'M NOT FEELING ANYTHING! NOTHING!

pinch

WE'LL BE RIGHT BACK.

THANKS, TAKEZO -SENPAI!

A ha ha

... ALL RIGHT!

HEY, CHIKA, COME HERE!

LOOK AT THIS CASE!

YEAH.

I'M FEELING THIS ONE.

This case is cute

WOW, THIS IS AMAZING! THERE ARE SO MANY SONGS.

WHAT'S IT CALLED?

flinch

TIME HEALS ALL WOUNDS.

!

Sure

SHOW ME YOURS, SANE.

.....

TIME...

時瀬除

welcome

DON'T LET GO OF YOUR MOMMY!

THANK YOU♡

FOR TWO!

AH.

step step

おばけ屋敷

chatter chatter

COME HERE! WE'RE DOING A HAUNTED HOUSE!

OH, WHAT HAPPENED TO THE MASKS YOU MADE BEFORE?

AHAHA, THANK YOU!

IT SUITS YOU!

WOW, THAT'S SO CUTE!!

TH-THEY SUIT YOU!

AND TOLD TO WEAR THESE...

WE WERE SCOLDED BY THE GIRLS...

UMM... THAT...

HIRO -SENPAI!

KOUTA!

THANKS, HIRO.

SORRY FOR BEING LATE!

YEAH, THEY'RE MY TREAT!

YOU WERE DOING WAFFLES, HIRO -SENPAI?

WE'LL VISIT LATER!

C-

CUTE...

Gyaaa

aan

SORRY, KURUSU -SAN FOR MAKING YOU GO ALONE.

Kurusu -san?!

Not!!

ka PUNCH

KURUSU -SAN, THAT OUTFIT REALLY SUITS YOU. IT'S CUTE.

turn...

I CAN'T GET CARE-LESS...

THE POWER OF THE FESTI-VAL...

?

?

My BODY can't take this

I'm sorry!!

I'm going to punch you!!

1-F

chatter

WELCOME!

SATOWA-CHAN, TAKE THIS TO TABLE TWO, PLEASE.

YES.

chatter

HEY, WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

WANT TO COME HAVE SOME FUN WITH US?

UMM...

UWAAH, CUTE!

THANK YOU FOR WAITING. MACCHA LATTE AND—

grab

EXCUSE ME, BUT I'M BUSY.

I WILL IF YOU TELL ME YOUR NAME♡

PLEASE LET GO OF ME.

grip

WHA...

JUST A LITTLE BIT.

DON'T BE SO COLD.

BIRTHDAY: SEPTEMBER 2ND, VIRGO, AND MY BLOOD TYPE IS O.

KUDOU CHIKA.

SQUEEZE

GDA DA DA DA

W-

WE'RE FINE, THANK YOU...

ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANT TO KNOW?

turn

AH

I CAN'T LOOK AT KUDOU'S FACE.

I KNEW IT

IT'S STILL BAD

THE HEAT WON'T GO AWAY.

I WANT IT TO GO AWAY QUICKLY.

SIT

ARE YOU OKAY?

WHY?

WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?

2-A, WE HAVE WAFFLES!

HE'S QUITE DEPRES-SED...

IDIOT TETSUKI.

SHUT UP, IDIOT.

AH, PARDON ME.

THE WAFFLES XXARE GREAT! COME RIGHT IN!

IT'S HERE? I THINK IT WAS CLASS A...

!

I DON'T GET TO SEE KURATA MUCH.

THANK GOODNESS I'M HERE BRINGING CUSTO-MERS...

HUH?

UMM... IS TAKE...

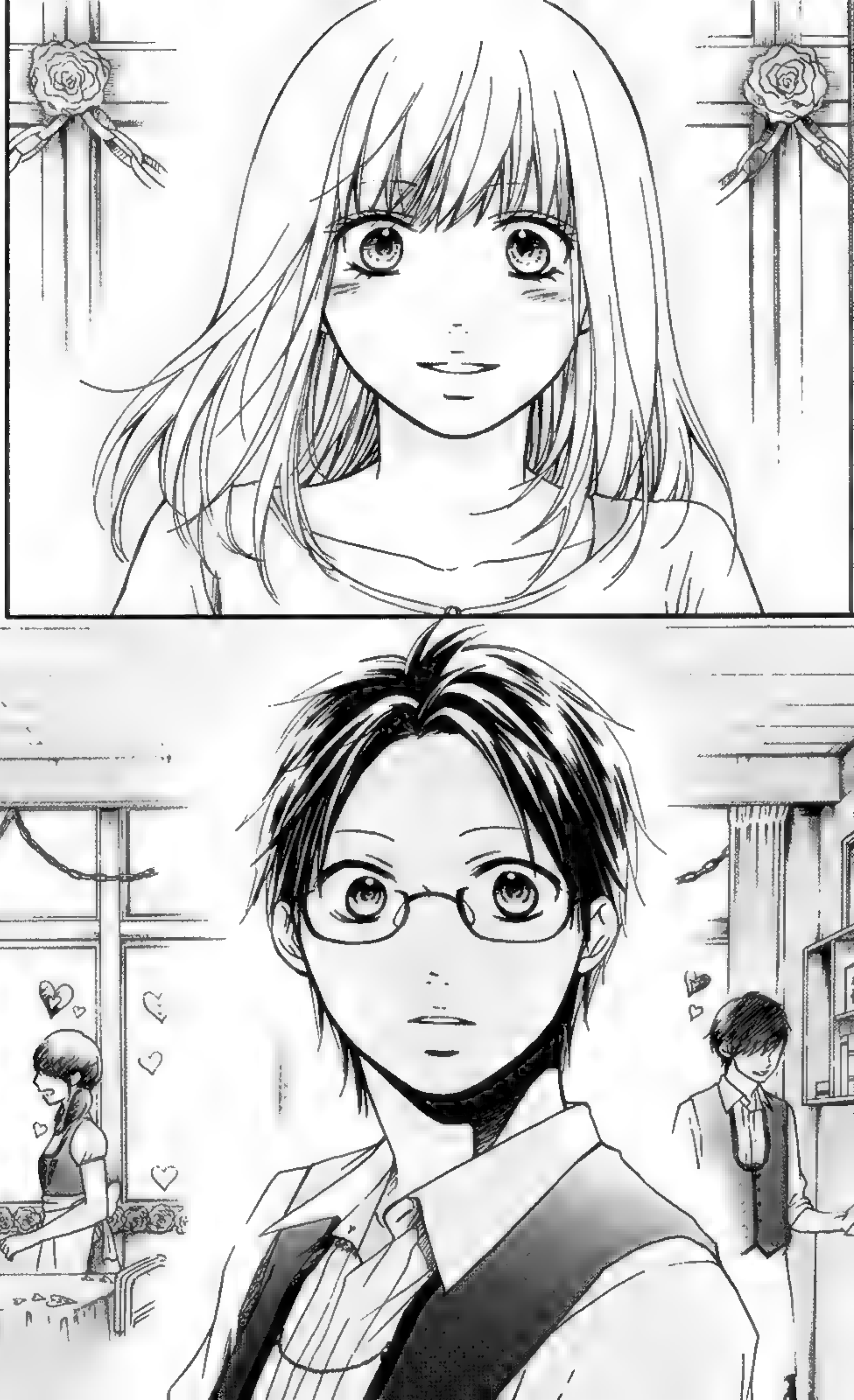
IS KURATA -KUN HERE?

...
WHO?

AH...
HE'S...
HERE...

TAKEZOU!

"TAKEZOU!"



BA-DUMP

EH...
AH.

MA...
SHIRO
-SENPAI?!

Y-YOU
CAME...?

LONG TIME
NO SEE,
TAKEZOU!

WAIT,
SENPAI! YOU
COULD'VE
AT LEAST
CONTACT-
ED US.

WOW,
THAT'S
A CUTE
OUTFIT!

YEAH, I
WANTED
TO SEE
TAKEZOU
AGAIN SO
I CAME
TO PLAY!

EHEHE~
SURPRISE!

TH-

THAT'S NOT...

S-

SORRY.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.

THIS IS SO SUDDEN I'M A BIT SHAKEN...

I BLINKED AND YOU BECAME SO MUCH MANLIER.

YOUR BACK IS WIDER.

Hey, Kurata, over here!

AH, SORRY, YOU WERE BUSY.

I'LL COME BACK WHEN YOU HAVE A BREAK.

WE'RE DOING A KOTO ENSEMBLE IN THE GYMNASIUM AT 12:30.

NO WAY!

HOW LONG ARE YOU STAYING, SENPAI?

I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ELSE TO DO TODAY.

SO AS LONG AS YOU WANT!

I'LL COME!! I'LL DEFINITELY BE THERE!!

WAIT, HOW DID YOU GET THE STAGE?!

DON'T YOU NEED MORE THAN FIVE MEMBERS FOR THAT?

SEVEN... MEMBERS...

THE KOTO CLUB HAS SEVEN MEMBERS NOW.

YOU GAVE IT YOUR ALL...

NO, I DIDN'T REALLY DO MUCH.

IT'S AMA-ZING.

YOU REALLY GAVE IT YOUR ALL.

THAT CAN'T... AMA-ZING.

YOU'RE AMAZING, TAKEZOU.

YES!

I'LL SEE YOU LATER THEN. I LOOK FORWARD TO THE PERFOR-MANCE!

AH, KURUSU -SAN!

HUH?

NO...

I SHOULD HAVE IN-TRODUCED YOU TWO!

LAST YEAR THERE WERE ONLY US TWO SO I WAS IN HER CARE-

THAT PERSON WAS THE PREVIOUS PRESIDENT OF THE KOTO CLUB.

IT'S NOT SOME-THING THAT CONCERNS ME...

AH, MAYBE I REALLY HURT HIM.

THAT'S RIGHT... SORRY.

HOW IS THIS ERASING MY FEELINGS?

AREN'T I JUST LASHING OUT IN JEALOUSY?

WHAT AM I DOING...? I'M AWFUL.

"THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONCERN, BUT I AM A BETTER JUDGE OF PEOPLE THAN YOU."

THIS IS PITIFUL.

"I UNDERSTAND KURUSU-SAN QUITE WELL NOW. SO IT'S OKAY."

THAT PERSON...

"THE PREVIOUS PRESIDENT OF THE KOTO CLUB.

LAST YEAR THERE WERE ONLY US TWO SO..."

WHILE I WAS DECEIVING AND HURTING OTHERS

CALLING HIM "NADESHIKO-CHAN" AS HE WORKED HARD TO CONTINUE THE CLUB

LIKE THE REST, I LOOKED DOWN ON AND THOUGHT HIM AN IDIOT

I REALLY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT KURATA FROM FIRST YEAR.

IF I HAD THE CHANCE TO...

"I SHOULD HAVE INTRODUCED YOU TWO!"

AND YET

WHILE THOSE TWO GREW CLOSE ENOUGH TO TALK LIKE THAT.

I KNOW NOTHING.

Kurata!

"YOU'RE AMAZING, TAKEZOU. YOU REALLY GAVE IT YOUR ALL."

I WAS JUST LASHING OUT. I'M REALLY SORRY!

SO-

SORRY, I TAKE THAT BACK!

SO

JUST...

THAT WAS AN IMPORTANT SENPAI JUST NOW, RIGHT?

YOU SHOULD BE PROUD OF THE KOTO CLUB

KURUSU -SAN.

AND I'LL GIVE MY ALL FOR THE PERFOR-MANCE!

THANK YOU.

I WANT TO

LET'S DO OUR BEST!!

LISTEN, THERE IS AN IMPORTANT ALUMNI HERE TODAY!

STAY AS SOMEONE KURATA CAN TRUST.

THAT'S WHAT SENSEI TAUGHT US.

NO NEED TO TAKE IT THAT SE- WE'RE RIOUSLY. GOING UP THERE TO HAVE FUN.

WE NEED TO MAKE THIS COUNT!

SO THEY'RE OUR GRAND -SENPAI!

TAKEZO -SENPAI'S SENPAI...

AH...

"IT'S REALLY ALL RIGHT."

"THERE WAS SOMETHING MY SENPAIS TOLD ME-"

"ENJOY YOURSELF AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE."

YEAH, I WILL DO MY BEST!

IT'S CLEARLY CONNECTED.

EVERY DAY I REPEATED THE SENPAI'S WORDS TO MYSELF.

DURING THE TIME I WAS ALONE IN THE CLUB

IT DOES CONCERN ME.

I FEEL REALLY HAPPY.

THAT IS WHY NOW,

WHEN I'M ABOUT TO SHOW THAT SENPAI TODAY'S KOTO CLUB'S PERFORMANCE

UMM... NEXT ON THE STAGE-

A PERFOR-MANCE BY THE KOTO CLUB!

PLEASE ENJOY THE WONDROUS SOUNDS OF THE KOTO!

AMA-ZING! THERE REALLY ARE SEVEN

AND SO MANY ARE BOYS.

第63回時瀬祭

I LOVE THIS SONG!

WHOA, THIS ARRANGE-MENT IS COOL!

!!

THEY SEEM REALLY HAPPY.

THEY'RE SO GOOD!

YEAH...

AND GIVE A HALF-HEARTED PERFORMANCE.

I THOUGHT THEY WOULD BE GLOOMY AND DEPRESSED

FROM THEIR PRAC-TICES,

Ha

THEY REALLY ARE INTERESTING.

PROBABLY,

FOR ALL OF THEM

THEIR MOST IMPORTANT THING IS

UNSHAKEABLY IDENTICAL.

第163回時鐘祭

!

Oh, that one!

The koto club's previous performance was really good too!

I feel ya!

But I was really moved when they played

I didn't really care about the club at all

What

What?

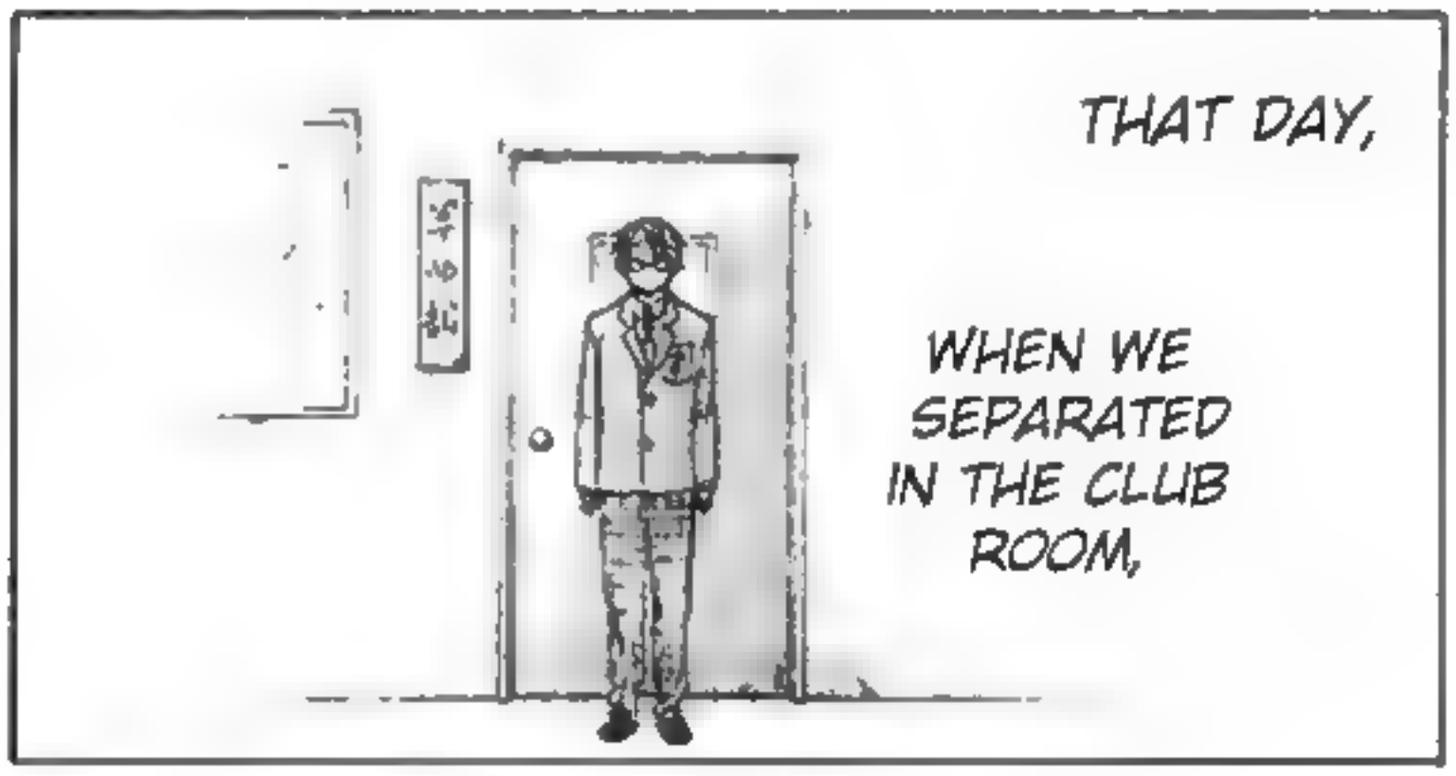
Ehh?!

I-I'm curious...!!

Yeah, like it was straight out of some drama!

And then there was that speech with the vice-principal and all

#31 Time for Two



TAKEZOU KEPT WATCHING, WHO WOULD NEVER RETURN

#31 Time for Two

YOU WERE SO COOL!!

AAAH, YOU GUYS!

glowing

fidget

fidget

//

I-

IS THAT SO...?

REALLY!?

ONE OF THOSE SOOTHING TYPES.

Is like a real angel!!

Hey, Takezou -senpai's senpai

IDIOT! YOUR VOICE IS TOO LOUD!!

sloppy

I love you Mashiron -senpai♡

chatter chatter

Kya Kya

IT- IT WAS NO-THING~

THAT ARRANGE WAS SO COOL, TOO! I EVEN STARTED TO SING ALONG WITH IT!

YOU GUYS ARE AMAZING!

YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED, SENPAI...

Ehe he~

Wheat, you only just started playing in high school? Amazing!!

heh

KURATA AND SENPAI PROBABLY HAVE A LOT OF CATCHING UP TO DO.

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT, STOP HOGGING SENPAI.

...

LET'S TAKE UP THAT OFFER. THEN

UH, BUT...

KURATA

DON'T MIND US AND GO HAVE SOME FUN.

We're almost done cleaning up here

JUST GO!

.....

KURUSU -SAN...

WAS IT?

FOR THIS AND MANY OTHER THINGS, THANK YOU!

AH, YES.

SHE REALLY... IS CUTE...

...NOT AT ALL.

TAKEZOU MUST BE RELIEVED AS WELL!

IF SOMEBODY LIKE KURUSU -SAN IS THE VICE-PRESIDENT

Moshiron senpai come back someday~

JUST FORGET ABOUT US AND TALK ALL YOU LIKE!

I FEEL A BIT BAD LEAVING BUT-

I KNOW!

Wahhh

WHOO... MY HEART FEELS CLEANSED...

DOOR CLOSING

ARE YOU FINE WITH THAT?

WH...

WHAT DO YOU...?

HUH?

Flip

Flip

NOTHING.

Suzuka-chan, come here!!

FWIP

AH WELL, LET'S FINISH UP CLEANING THE SHEET STANDS AND GO.

SURE.

HIRO -SENPAI?

W- WHAT'S GOING ON??

WHOOSH

I WAS SO SURPRISED!

THE NUMBERS! THE TALENT!

I WISH THE OTHER MEMBERS WERE HERE TO LISTEN.

AT FIRST, I WAS REALLY WORRIED

THINKING I COULDN'T PROTECT OUR PROMISE.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

I'M HAPPY TO HEAR SENPAI SAY THAT.

AND THE WORDS SENPAI GAVE ME.

I AM TRULY BLESSED BY MY FRIENDS.

... REALLY?

THEY HAVE SAVED ME MANY TIMES.

... TO BE HONEST, I REGRET THEM A BIT.

I COAXED YOU INTO TAKING CARE OF THE CLUB, SAYING STUFF LIKE, "IF IT'S YOU, TAKEZOU, YOU CAN DO IT!"

EH...

THAT WAS VERY SELFISH OF ME

WHAT I SAID WAS VERY UNFAIR.

ON GRADUATION DAY,

SEEING TAKEZOU LEFT BEHIND LIKE THAT,

I REALIZED THAT YOU WOULD BE ALONE, SEARCHING FOR NEW MEMBERS.

AS THE PRESIDENT, THAT WAS SOMETHING I SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE.

IT WAS PROBABLY VERY DIFFICULT AND LONELY.

INSTEAD OF LEAVING TAKEZOU WITH WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE END OF OUR CLUB.

I SHOULD HAVE FOUND MORE PEOPLE WHILE I WAS HERE,

I SHACKLED YOU WITH MY WORDS.

STEALING YOUR WAY OUT, I BEGAN TO HAVE REGRETS.

I REALLY DIDN'T TRUST MYSELF.

I'M TRULY SORRY.

TERRIBLE, ISN'T IT?

PROUDLY PROTECTING THE CLUB WITH WORDS ALONE, THINKING IT WOULD ALL BE FINE.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT.

I'm serious here!

haha

THAT'S WHAT BOTHERED YOU?

EVEN IF YOU COULDN'T TRUST YOURSELF,

IT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT THOSE WORDS GAVE ME STRENGTH.

PLEASE STOP THAT.

YOU'RE REALLY A PRESIDENT NOW, TAKE-ZOU.

NOTICED WHAT?

YOU'VE NOTICED... RIGHT..?

UMM... SU... SUZUKA -CHAN.

DID I SAY SOMETHING?

UH....

GH...!!

AFTER SAYING THAT SORT OF THING...!

YOU KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT!!

I will do it!!

I will be fine!

I-

I will completely erase these feelings!

So... I won't cause any trouble to the club,

WHY... YOU ASK...?

WHY YOU NEED TO ERASE IT?

BE-

BECAUSE WHILE EVERYONE IS WORKING HARD, I'M HERE BEING FRIVOLOUS LIKE THIS.

THAT IS JUST... UNREASO-NABLE.

IT'S WRONG.

WHY LOVING IS SO UNREASONABLE TO YOU.

I REALLY DON'T UNDERSTAND

WA-

WAIT, SUZUKA -CHAN.

WHAT ARE YOU SA-

I ALSO DON'T GET WHY IT WOULD TROUBLE THE OTHERS.

PEOPLE ARE TROUBLED BY ALL SORTS OF CRAP. LOVE IS ONLY A MINOR OFFENDER.

TO BEGIN WITH, IF BEING CLUB MEMBERS IS WHAT IS HOLDING YOU BACK,

THEN YOUR FEELINGS CAN'T BE VERY SERIOUS.

NOTHING, REALLY.

JUST RANDOM STUFF THAT COMES TO MIND.

YOU MIGHT AS WELL MAKE THAT INTO YOUR STRENGTH.

AM I ALLOWED TO...LOVE?

I CAN MAKE IT... MY STRENGTH?

SENSEI WANTED TO TALK ABOUT THE SONG FOR THE PRELIMINARIES.

AH, PROBABLY.

THIS SHOULD BE FINE, I GUESS.

ARE THEY COMING BACK?

WHERE DID HIRO-SENPAI AND SENSEI GO?

Clatter

HERE WE GO.

THEN I'LL WAIT HERE.

In case somebody comes back

OH, LET'S DO THAT!

Let's eat here

THEN LET'S TAKE THIS CHANCE TO GRAB SOME FOOD!

I'm hungry

CHIKA?

LET'S GO, CHIKA.

OKAY, I'LL GET SOMETHING FOR YOU, HOUTSUKI -SAN!

THANK YOU.

BA-DUMP

SHUT UP AND GET GOING.

DAMMIT, CHIKA, QUIT SLACKING.

boo boo

THAT SEEMS LIKE A PAIN. I'M STAYING.

UM

I GUESS I'LL GO WITH THE REST T-

WH-WHAT

AM I TO DO?

HOUTSUKI.

Slam

"SAN"...?

.....

...SAN.

I

.....

...
MMM...

FOR YOU TO FORGIVE ME?

I... I CAN DO

... IS THERE ANYTHING

I'M REALLY SORRY.

PLEASE FORGIVE ME...

I MEAN

I'M REALLY SORRY FOR MAKING YOU FEEL THAT TERRIBLE!!

AND WHENEVER I TRY TO APOLOGIZE YOU AVOID ME,

SO, UMM...

opening

EH

UM...

.....

Slam

Wait wait wait!

WE BUMPED RIGHT INTO SENSEI.

AH, CHIKA!

THE CHOICES FOR NATIONAL PRELIMINARIES

!

.....

sigh

Too late now!! What was that about a song?

I FIGURED WE'D BE IN THE WAY.

What was that about??

Huh?

grab

AH, DID YOU LISTEN TO THEM?

I WAS THINKING OF CHOOSING ONE OF THEM.

EH?

THEY WERE A BIT DICEY. ALL REJECTED.

IF YOU DON'T HAVE A RECORDING, SHEET MUSIC WILL BE FINE.

EH?

ALL OF THEM?

HOUTSUKI

BRING A RECORDING OF EVERY GROUP, SOLO OR WHATEVER SONG YOU HAVE.

CAN YOU BE SPECIFIC ABOUT WHAT WAS WRONG WITH THEM?

Annoyed

YOU...

WHY DIDN'T YOU ASK FOR THAT IN THE FIRST PLACE?

WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?

I THOUGHT YOU HAD MORE SENSE THAN THAT.

I GUESS THAT'S TRUE. TRUSTING YOU TO CHOOSE A SONG WAS MY MISTAKE.

!?

THEY WERE DEFINITELY DIFFICULT ENOUGH TO ENTER TOURNAMENTS WITH-

THEIR DIFFICULTY WASN'T THE PROBLEM.

THAT'S ALL.

THEY WEREN'T SONGS YOU SHOULD TAKE TO NATIONALS.

WOW. This has everything in it

flip flip

IT'S NOT INTERESTING, BUT IT SERVES ITS PURPOSE.

I MADE IT FOR BASIC HAND PRACTICE.

A PRACTICE PIECE.

WHAT IS THIS?

DO THIS UNTIL YOU FIND A SONG.

ANYWAY, THAT'S HOW IT IS.

Whoa ama zing

THIS WILL BE THEIR LAST CHANCE AT THE NATIONALS.

EXPLAIN THIS TO KURATA AND KURUSU.

THAT'S ALL.

WHAT...?

等

YOU DIDN'T NOTICE?

IT'S ONLY THEIR SECOND YEAR.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

THEY WILL HAVE GRADUATED BY THE CONTEST.

EVEN IF THEY PASS THE PRELIMINARIES IN THEIR THIRD YEAR,

WHILE THE TOURNAMENT IS HELD THE SUMMER OF THE NEXT YEAR.

THE NATIONAL PRELIMINARIES ARE HELD AROUND FALL AND WINTER,

IF KURATA AND KURUSU

LOSE IN THE NEXT PRELIMINARIES,

THEY WILL NEVER GO TO THE NATIONALS.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR TODAY.

NO, THE PLEASURE IS ALL MINE!

... ARE YOU ENTERING THE NATIONAL PRELIMINARIES THIS DECEMBER?

YES

ALTHOUGH WE HAVEN'T DECIDED ON A SONG.

FOR THE TWO OF THEM

THIS WILL BE THEIR LAST CHANCE.

I DON'T THINK THE NATIONALS ARE JUST A DREAM FOR THE CURRENT TOKISE KOTO CLUB.

IT MAY HAVE BEEN HOPELESS FOR US.

EVEN IF YOU COULDN'T MAKE IT TO THE NATIONALS,

YOU STILL DID YOUR BEST THE WHOLE YEAR THROUGH.

I WAS HAPPY WITH HOW THE SENPAIS AIMED FOR THE NATIONALS EVEN IN THEIR THIRD YEAR.

IT WOULD HAVE BEEN COOL TO LEAVE YOU WITH A TICKET TO THE NATIONALS

BUT I GUESS WE WERE TOO NAIVE.

EVEN SO

IT TRULY MADE ME HAPPY.

BA-DUMP

IF WE LOSE, IT'S ALL OVER.

THIS IS THE LAST...

NO WAY!!!

AN AMAZING PERSON JOINED US.

WITH THE FRESHMEN THIS YEAR

THEN PRACTICE

THEY WERE MOTIVATED FROM THE START.

THEIR GROWTH WAS STAGGERINGLY FAST.

AND KURUSU -SAN,

DISCOUNTING HER, THE OTHER FRESHMEN

THEN FOR THE NEXT TWO MONTHS

TRAIN LIKE YOUR LIVES DEPEND ON IT.

IF YOU DON'T WANT THIS TO BE THE LAST ONE,

EFFICIENTLY

FRANTICLY

EARNESTLY

TRAIN SO THAT YOU CAN PROUDLY SAY NO ONE TRAINED MORE.

THAT'S WHY I DON'T WANT THIS TO BE THE END.

AND STILL YOU WON'T MAKE IT TO THE NATIO-NALS.

等

TOGETHER WITH EVERY-ONE

I WANT TO GO AS FAR AS WE POSSIBLY CAN.

DO YOUR BEST.

YEAH.

WATCH IT.

startle

CHIKA...

door opening

press

rattle

sigh

……

COME WITH ME.

WE'LL GO GET THEM RIGHT NOW WITH MY CAR.

EH, BUT...

HOUT-SUKI

I TAKE BACK THAT ORDER FROM BEFORE.

THE FASTER WE HAVE OUR SONG, THE BETTER.

I UNDERS-TAND.

SENSEI!

IT'S THE FESTIVAL, SO YOU CAN SKIP A BIT.

HERE, A TUNER.

KUDOU

THE STRINGS MAY BE LOOSE.

OKAY.

"THIS WILL BE THEIR LAST CHANCE."

"LAST"

Huh? Everyone's practising again!?

KOTO

Ga

whoosh...

THIS IS A DVD?

DAMN, NONE OF THESE FIT NEXT. THE BILL.

I FOUND IT.

National Koto playing con

VOLUME 8 END

現在ネットに7無料配信中
作中オリジナル曲第2弾
「久遠」PV完成までの
裏話。

大体が
作者の
しょうもなさについて
描いてます

愛たちが7巻で
弾いた「久遠」

久遠

6巻で
ちょろっと描きましたが
「龍星群」とは違い
楽譜が先に完成していました

楽譜が先に
あったおかげで
練習風景を
描く際は とても
助かったんです…

柱の位置も
決まってるし
手の形も
決まってるし
描きやすいぜ～
ヒャッハー

が…

#26 実際に愛たちが
「久遠」を弾く回…

描くのが難しすぎて
本当にハゲるかと
思いました

いや ちょっと
ハゲました

というのも
「久遠」は実は楽譜だけでなく
音源・映像も
邦楽祭編を描く
大分前に
すでに収録されており

龍星群と
同じ日に
収録済みでした

大事なことなのに…

その段階では
演奏をどう描くか
演奏にどういった意味を
持たせるのか
全く決まっていなかったから…

つまり…

愛が手を
負傷することも
演奏が乱れることも
何も想定していない状態で
曲を先に撮ってしまって
いたわけです

なんてこと…

今考えると
ほんと恐ろしい

そのため
#26の

愛から演奏が乱れ
←
さとわが動揺
←
演奏がバラバラに
←
コータがきっかけで
立ち直り
←
みんなで持ち直す

――という流れが
曲の構成と合わなくなって
しまうという事態に

当初の曲の構成では

コータが持ち直す箇所の後
一度ゆったりとした
ピチカート(指で弾く)での
メロディが続き
それを終えてから
終盤の盛り上がりに入る作りでした

ここで一つ目の問題

せっかくコータが
持ち直したのに
その後やっぱり…
話的にはここから
一気に盛り上げたい
でもそうすると
曲と合わん…

そしてもう一つ

愛のソロ部分が
切なくて哀しげなメロディだったため
作中での愛の心情と
合わなくなってしまい…

うわぁあ
ソロのシーンは
もう手も表したくないよ
難しいんだよ

でもそれだと
明らかに曲と合わん!!
でも曲に合わせると
話の流れが…!!

大パニック

曲はもう
PVまで撮り終えてるし
公開も決まってるし
変えられない。

「龍星群」は
話やキャラの心情に合わせて
作ってもらったから
たくさんの読者さまに
喜んで頂けたけど

このままじゃ「久遠」は
話と合わなくて
読者さまに届かない…

だめだ
私は…

なんて
力不足なんだ…

せっかくの曲を
全然生かせない

…でも…

その一か所さえ
ちょっと変えてもらえれば
描きたい内容と合う…

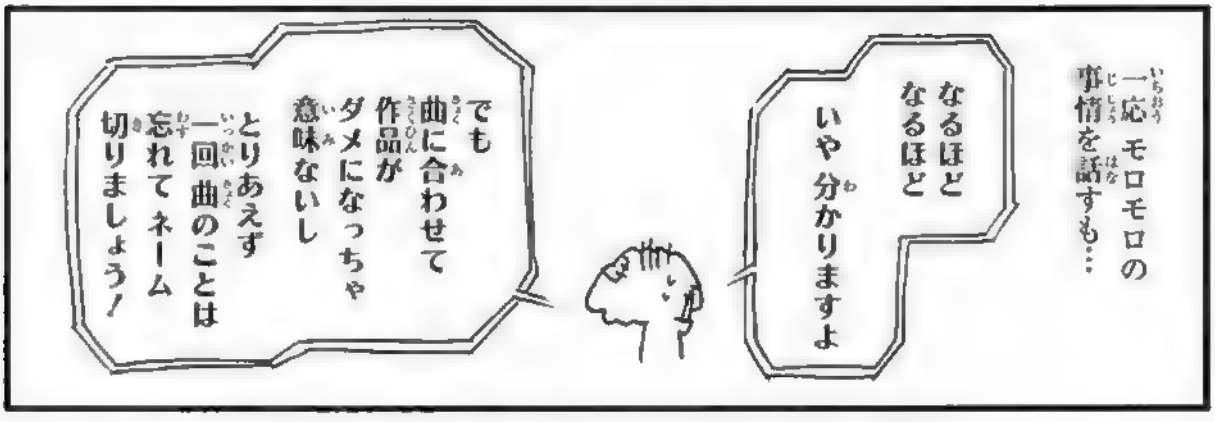
むくり

色んな方に
迷惑がかかる…

お金もかかる…

でも せっかくPVを
公開して頂けるのなら
ベストな形にしたい…

ダメ元で
担当さんに電話
あの…
多分絶対
確実にムリだとは
思うんですが…
PV撮り直すことなんて
出来たりとか…
半泣き。
…え？
え?? 何で？
担当さんの
「何言出てんだ
コイツ」感
あふれます


一応 モロモロの
事情を話すも…
なるほど
なるほど
いや 分かりますよ
でも
曲に合わせて
作品が
ダメになっちゃ
意味ないし
とりあえず
一回 曲のことは
忘れて ネーム
切りましょう！

いいネームできるの
楽しみにしてますんで！
がんばって下さいね！
ブルッ
ガンバリマス！
ー
ー
ー…
うぉぉぉ
ばたばた
ですよね！
結局
明らかに曲と流れの
合わないネームを
描くことに…

——こうして #26「久遠」のネームは完成しました

「久遠」ちゃんと
撮り直せることに
なったんで…！
ピカーッ

なので安心して
原稿進めて
下さいー
よかったー
見てないけど
多分あの時の担当さんは
光輝いていた
私がへこんでいる間
なんだかんだ
担当さんがしっかり
話を通して下さって
いたのでした
いつ命にはと、
うおおああ
ホホホントですかっっ
うわぁああ
ありがとう
ございます!!!

こうして担当さんと
寛大な編集部さまのおかげで
「久遠」の撮り直しが決まり

作曲者である母に
曲の気になっていた
二か所を直してもらい

再び 前回お世話になった
箏奏者さまやスタッフさま

そして新メンバーとして
箏奏者の熊代七恵さんにも
加わって頂き

新たな「久遠」
収録へ…!!

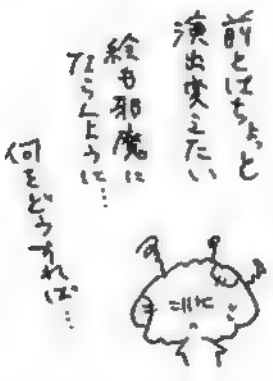
みなさまご多忙のため
全員が集まれたのは
収録日のみ…!

録音できるのが
3〜4回のため
一回ごとに集中力を高めて
演奏して下さいました

ちなみに
「久遠」のキーでもある
コータパートの
光原さんは

コータに合わせて
バーカーを着て来て
下さったので
そこも要チェックです!

その後
動画の構成でもまた
ゆきづまりつつ…



公開ギリギリに
なんとか完成…!!

間に合って
本当に良かった!
そして わがまま言って
本当にすみませんでした

PVは すでに
ジャンプSQ。公式HP等で
公開中です!

すでに見て下さった方
コメントを下さった方
本当にありがとうございます!

そして演奏に携わって下さった
みなさま
動画に携わって下さった
みなさま
編集部さま 担当さま
作曲してくれたお母さん
本当にありがとう
ございました!!

たくさんの方に
迷惑をかけ お力を借り
出来上がった
「久遠」

アドレス!
↓

http://jumpsq.shueisha.co.jp/sq/

ぜひぜひ
一度聴いて頂けたら
幸いです!!

SPECIAL THANKS

夕希 実久 様　平浜 矢陸 様　浅月 舞 様
岡野 江 様　壱川 七宇 様　山岸 菜 様
木ノ下 奈央 様　市川 るき 様　遠藤 達哉 様
浅井 蓮次 様　金子 様　（順不同）

毎月 笑いにあふれた
職場にして頂いてます！
とうもありがとう
ございます!!

担当編集
林 士平 様
ランランルー

取材協力
釧路市民文化会館 様
釧路市生涯学習センター 様
快くたくさん写真を撮らせて
下さり ありがとうございました!!

コミックス編集　黒木竜介 様
コミックスデザイン　石野竜生 様
大変お世話になっております!!

この本に携わって下さった
全ての皆様
そして読んで下さった
皆様
本当にありがとうございました…!!

家族
友だち
がんがん助けられてます
心の拠り所!!

9巻も
よろしくお願い
いたします！
9.!!
うぉー!!

この音とまれ！

8巻

アミュー

© アミュー 2015, 2015

初版発行　　2015年
デジタル版発行　2015年

発行所　集英社
http://www.shueisha.co.jp

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この音とまれ！ By Amyuu

Translator: Dancefag Editor: /a/non

Don't forget to support the mangaka/author if you can.

Notes:

この音とまれ! By Amyuu

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